minium Project which is being set up in Orissa;

(b) what is the number of persons in different grades who have been provided employment in the Project; and

(c) what is the progress made so far in regard to the setting up of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The target dates for the start-up of various segments of the *Alumina-Aluminium* Project being set up in Orissa are :

Mine—November, 1985

Alumina Plant (Phase I)—

September, 1986

Aluminium Smelter (Pot Line)—

December, 1986

Captive Power Plant (Phase I)—

December, 1986.

(b) The number of persons employed in different grades by the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) are as follows :—

Executives	312
Non-Executives	1224
Graduate Engineering Trainees	115
Operative Trainees	46

(c) The progress made upto June, 1985 in the construction of the Orissa Alumina-Aluminium Complex is given below :—

Mine	90.1%
Alumina Plant	54.7%
Aluminium Smelter	53.6%
Captive Power Plant	51.4%

Disputes between the public sector undertakings and its workers pending in Courts

748. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of industrial disputes between each public sector undertaking and its workers as on the 31st March, 1985 pending in various High Courts, Supreme Court, Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals;

(b) how many of these disputes are more than three years old;

(c) how much compensation each public sector undertaking has paid to its workers during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether Government have taken any policy decision to settle across the table in case of disputes which are more than three years old to avoid needless litigation; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (e) Managements of the public sector enterprises try to settle all disputes including the disputes arising out of the various wage settlements etc. by discussions across the table. There are situations where such settlements cannot be arrived at for various reasons. Even in respect of the terms and conditions of employment, disputes are being settled amicably as far as possible. It is not, however, always possible to settle the disputes across the table. Since Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals/High Courts/Supreme Court can admit petitions from the individual employees/unions on any aspects of the employment or disciplinary matters, it is

not possible to collect the information relating to the number of industrial disputes pending in these courts, their age and compensation, if any paid in respect of each PEs. Government feels that the effort involved in collection of the information would not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

Profit/loss of NTC

749. SHRI L. GANESAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantum of profit/loss earned/incurred by the National Textile Corporation during the last three years, year-wise and mill-wise;

(b) what is the number of employees at present employed in each mill run by the NTC;

(c) what steps are being taken to make these mills viable; and

(d) what are the details of the schemes of NTC to be taken up during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Year-wise profit/loss account of the Nationalised units under the National Textile Corporation, for the last three years, is given in the statement attached. [*See* Appendix CXXXV, Annexure No. 17.]

(b) A statement showings the number of employees employed in NTC nationalised mills, as on 31-12-1984 is attached. [*See* Appendix CXXXV, Annexure No. 18.]

(c) Some of the important steps taken/being taken within the limited resources to improve the performance of the mills under NTC are as under:—

(1) arrangements are being made for timely procurement of cotton from different available channels;

(2) working capital has been replenished to make up for cash losses;

(3) to overcome the power shortage self-generating capacity, has been provided;

(4) selective modernisation programme have been adopted for result-oriented gains; for best utilisation of limited resources;

(5) cost control mothods have been introduced for reduction in cost at all levels;

(6) efforts are being made for reducing the non-operational administrative expenses;

(7) workers' participation scheme in the management of the mills is being encouraged.

(d) The Planning Commission has so far indicated an outlay of Rs. 117 crores for both modernisation and nationalisation of labour schemes of NTC during the 7th Plan period.

Tea plantation industry in South

750. SHRI M. M. JACOB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tea plantation industry in South India is facing a crisis owing to unsold stocks of tea;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to help the tea industry in Souh India to overcome this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Comparision of figures of production